

OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

Volume: 18-03
Released: August 4, 2003
Week Ending: August 3, 2003

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Weather: A few counties received some cooler temperatures and light showers by the week's end; otherwise the hot and dry conditions of summer continued. Linn and Josephine counties received record high temperatures early in the week. The outlook for precipitation in the coming week appears best in south central and southeast Oregon, according to the National Weather Service. The Dalles reported a weekly high temperature of 107 degrees, 14 degrees above normal. Grants Pass recorded 227 growing degree days, 66 above normal.

Field Crops: Most areas reported reduced yields because of the hot dry summer and low subsoil moisture. The grain harvest was just starting in Baker County. The Union County winter wheat harvest was gaining momentum. The grain harvest there began about two weeks early. Umatilla County yields were coming in average to below average. Hot, dry conditions were raising concerns for fall seeding. The harvest is on the downhill side in Sherman County with low yields. The winter wheat harvest was in full swing in Polk County; some reported yields ranged between 100 to 130 bushels per acre. Spring wheat yields were down after the cool, wet spring. The Washington County winter wheat harvest was nearly finished; yields were down. Field corn was ready to tassel.

The grass seed harvest in Polk County has been completed. The second alfalfa cutting and the grain harvest were in progress in Jackson County. Most non-irrigated crop yields looked to be below average in Lane County. The second hay cutting continued in Union County, where non-irrigated crop yields were down. The grass seed harvest was 99 percent complete. Peppermint swathing started. Rain delayed the hay harvest in Harney County.

Vegetables: The harvest of vegetables continued. Commercial fields of cannery sweet corn were silking and setting good ears. Tomatoes were ripening. Cucumbers as well as most other vegetables were at farmers markets.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nursery activities included extended watering, weeding and plant and shrub care. Easter lily growers prepared equipment for planting and harvesting. Several growers were also in the process of building shipping boxes. Harvesting of truck gardens in Josephine County continued with good production.

Fruit: Blueberries were harvested in the Willamette Valley and the southern coast. Some areas in the Willamette Valley were harvesting blackberries, while others were nearly ready. Hazelnuts were maturing as orchard floors were being prepared. Peach harvest continued in Yamhill County.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Range and pasture land continued to suffer from hot temperatures during the week. Livestock received some relief from hot temperatures over the weekend. Harney and Lake counties reported receiving some much needed precipitation over the weekend. Cattle continued to be moved from rangeland as needed. Supplemental feeding was in full swing in Washington and Clackamas counties. Morrow and Union counties had a few range fires and the threat of fire remains high throughout the State.

Crop Progress Week Ending 8/3/03

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
All Barley harvested (%)	74	32	58	37
Spring wheat harvested (%)	64	35	48	28
Winter wheat harvested (%)	70	50	67	53
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.6	6.7	—	—

Soil Moisture Week Ending 8/3/03

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	32	50	18	—
Subsoil (%)	40	41	19	—

Crop Condition Week Ending 8/3/03

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Barley (%)	3	11	51	27	8
Range & Pasture (%)	7	13	51	26	3

CLACKAMAS: Grain harvest is moving ahead with no rain delays. Marionberry harvest ending. Evergreen blackberry picking well underway. Blueberry picking continues. Hazelnuts are maturing as orchard floors are being prepared. Main summer activity at nurseries is irrigation and trying to keep up with it. Dryland pastures are showing increased stress with many going into a summer dormancy. Supplemental feeding of livestock is becoming the norm. Livestock remain in good condition.

COOS\CURRY: Local blueberries were being marketed. Some cranberry growers made adjustments to sprinklers to alleviate drought stress. Easter lily growers were getting equipment ready for planting and harvest; some growers were also building shipping boxes. Dry weather continued with somewhat higher humidity and less sunshine. Precipitation occurred mostly as a few sprinkles on August 2. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 57.2 to 57.9 deg F; highs ranged from 67.4 to 71.0 deg F, and lows ranged from 49.3 to 51.6 deg F. Precipitation was 0.03" at both Bandon and Brookings-Harbor. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 53 GDD at Bandon to 67 GDD.

JACKSON: Grain harvest, alfalfa second cutting and vegetable harvest were in progress this week. Some peaches being harvested. Wild blackberries about ready. Pears showing good growth and will soon be ready for harvest on early varieties. Spraying of orchards about finished but lots of irrigation continued. Surround being applied to orchards to help protect the fruit from the hot sun. Vineyards look good and crop should be good. Extended watering, weeding and plant and shrub care at nurseries. Greenhouses busy with fall and winter plant starts. Ranchers were busy with irrigation of pasture land and trying to keep cattle on good pasture. Some ranchers doing some supplemental feeding where pastures have dried up. Cattle, sheep, horses and other animals on pasture look good to excellent. Daytime highs in the low hundreds and nights in the seventies. Weather cooled to eighties and nineties by week's end with some light showers.

JOSEPHINE: Record highs this week for both overnights and daytime. Rain on Friday brought some relief. Rain was measurable, gentle and lasted for over 24 hours. Harvesting of truck gardens continued and production is good. Haying for second cutting was interrupted by rain. Some farmers had hay down at the time it started raining. Native berries are good where they get water but are burning up on the vine or failing to mature for lack of surface and subsoil moisture. Blueberries are just winding down but crop was extremely heavy this year due to the wonderful spring weather. The bushes were falling down with loads of berries on them.

LANE: Third year of negative trend. We need rain. Most non-irrigated crops are below average in yield.

LINN: Record high temperatures early in the week; continued hot and dry.

MARION: Very hot and dry.

POLK: Grass seed harvest has been completed and winter wheat harvest is in full swing; some yields reported to have ranged from 100-130 bushels an acre. Spring wheat yields will suffer due to the wet conditions in early spring, which delayed planting, and the dry conditions after planting. During the last week there were several days with high temperatures in the nineties. There was some scattered rain in parts of the county late in the week.

WASHINGTON: Late strawberries at markets. Blueberries plentiful. Blackberries are ready to pick. Fall wheat harvest nearly finished as hot weather continued; yields down because of dry and hot conditions. Field corn ready to tassel. Sweet corn at farmers markets. Commercial field of cannery sweet corn silking and setting good ear crop. Tomatoes ripening. Cucumbers at markets. Most vegetables can be found at farmers markets. Winemakers are expecting a good crop of grapes with little thinning required and eastern exposure leaves being removed to allow more morning sun. Cattle in good shape and buffalo calves doing well. Supplemental feeding being done to all.

YAMHILL: Walnut growers were spraying for walnut husk fly. Peach harvest continued.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: It has been hot and dry. Grain harvest just starting. Cattle being moved from range early due to dried up feed and lack of stock water. Cattle still looking good. Prices are great!

HARNEY: Despite wide spread rain with thunderstorms, fire danger remains extreme. Rain delayed hay harvest but resumed late in the week. Meadow hay harvest winding down. Hot during the week. Weekend cooled down with scattered rain showers Saturday and Sunday.

LAKE: Hot temperatures this week! The majority of the week saw temperatures in the mid to upper nineties. The weekend did cool off significantly with temperatures in the low seventies. Received some much needed precipitation over the weekend.

MORROW: Field fires and range fires occurring more frequently as conditions remain dry. Temperatures cooled to low to middle nineties during the weekend. Overcast skies on Saturday failed to deliver any significant rainfall.

SHERMAN: Harvest on the downhill side, going quickly. Great cutting weather, only minor breakdowns and one fire (out in an hour). Low yields due to impacts of heat and drought and quality down from usual. Fewer deer due to cougar pressure and kills.

UMATILLA: Dry and hot conditions continued as harvest continued. Yields overall are coming in at average to below average. Test weights are on the light side. Hot and dry conditions are raising concerns about seeding conditions for fall.

UNION: Cooler temperatures at the end of the week have finally seemed to break the heat wave. Actually received a little moisture from the skies on Sunday. Range conditions have not improved much, but on the plus side they do not seem to be any worse either. Non-irrigated crops still suffering from dry conditions but irrigated fields are doing very well. Second cuttings of hay continued. Winter wheat harvest is well underway. Most livestock is still out in summer grazing locations. Spring wheat and barley not quite ripe yet. Mint fields should be close to harvest soon. Grain harvest has begun approximately two weeks early. Winter wheat test weights are ranging from 48 to 61 with most weights in the low to mid fifties. River levels are extremely low. Grass seed harvest 99% complete. Previous dry fall, areas of frost, and extreme heat conditions have negatively impacted grass and grain crops. Sweet cherry harvest complete. Peppermint swathing started this week. Cloudy and cool temperatures arrived late this week but did not receive any measurable precipitation. Seed potato bloom complete.

WALLOWA: Temperatures ranged between the mid nineties to low hundreds this week. It had started to cool down a little at the end of the week but it is still too hot for the crops and animals. Everything is drying up quickly.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING AUGUST 3, 2003 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	50	82	63	3	91	14	0.00	-0.21	0	59.86	-5.30	92	177
Crescent City	51	72	57	-2	53	-10	0.06	-0.06	1	58.61	-5.70	91	124
Florence	45	74	61	1	81	7	0.00	-0.19	0	75.22	0.02	100	148
North Bend	48	66	58	-3	57	-13	0.05	-0.07	1	64.27	1.87	103	143
Tillamook	45	73	59	1	67	4	0.00	-0.28	0	83.53	-3.46	96	167
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	54	100	73	7	162	43	0.00	-0.14	0	33.28	-8.61	79	119
Eugene	49	101	72	5	159	33	0.00	-0.14	0	40.10	-8.25	83	143
Hillsboro	50	98	71	6	153	34	0.00	-0.14	0	36.06	-0.50	99	141
McMinnville	51	100	72	6	154	35	0.00	-0.08	0	39.99	-2.49	94	150
Portland	56	100	74	5	167	34	0.00	-0.14	0	33.57	-1.70	95	143
Salem	57	101	74	8	171	51	0.00	-0.11	0	39.40	0.95	102	145
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	63	108	82	10	227	66	0.35	0.28	1	33.40	2.84	109	108
Medford	62	108	81	8	218	50	0.23	0.16	2	22.72	4.35	124	105
Roseburg	61	105	79	10	205	65	0.00	-0.07	0	31.79	-0.31	99	124
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	52	100	76	9	183	64	0.10	-0.03	1	12.80	-0.60	96	102
Heppner	58	105	81	11	215	75	0.01	-0.07	1	11.30	-1.96	85	103
Hermiston	55	106	81	8	220	52	0.00	-0.07	0	7.74	-0.85	90	76
John Day	58	103	77	9	193	57	0.02	-0.12	1	11.59	-0.85	93	101
Moro	61	102	79	11	206	73	0.00	-0.07	0	9.94	-0.74	93	78
Pendleton	62	104	81	8	223	55	0.00	-0.07	0	11.30	-0.22	98	94
The Dalles	61	107	81	14	218	92	0.00	-0.07	0	13.89	1.85	115	85
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	54	99	75	11	177	79	0.00	-0.11	0	7.19	-3.96	64	63
Burns	51	103	74	7	168	49	0.03	-0.10	2	8.38	-0.98	90	86
Klamath Falls	55	98	73	5	164	35	0.10	-0.01	1	11.69	-1.25	90	89
Lakeview	55	99	73	6	160	38	0.04	-0.03	1	4.53	-10.58	30	46
Redmond	51	103	75	9	177	58	0.00	-0.10	0	7.21	-0.84	90	71
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	46	101	72	5	155	29	0.01	-0.14	1	9.12	-0.88	91	91
Joseph	55	95	74	14	173	96	0.07	-0.13	1	19.12	-4.70	80	138
La Grande	48	102	74	4	170	23	0.00	-0.14	0	11.31	-5.27	68	98
Union	53	101	76	9	185	59	0.01	-0.13	1	14.91	2.01	116	117
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	53	105	81	4	216	27	0.00	-0.07	0	8.23	-1.04	89	75
Rome	58	106	79	7	201	42	0.05	-0.02	2	6.71	-1.11	86	73

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Sunday, September 1, 2002.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Oregon Crop Weather 18-03
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